Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of stabilization of a physiologically active peptide in a process of preparing a powder containing the physiologically active peptide, wherein the process comprises ~~by~~ drying an aqueous liquid containing the physiologically active peptide to form a powder, wherein the method comprises adding to the aqueous liquid at least one compound selected from the group of a nonionic, organic, water soluble binder, and ~~hydrogentaed~~ hydrogenated lecithin, and wherein the nonionic, organic, water-soluble binder is selected from polyvinylpyrrolidone, a water-soluble, nonionic cellulose derivative, and polyvinylalcohol.

2. (previously presented) A method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises adding to the aqueous liquid at least one compound selected from the group of a nonionic surfactant and mannitol.

3. (previously presented) A method of claim 1, wherein the amount of a nonionic surfactant to be added is 0.01-0.5% by weight, the amount of a nonionic, organic, water soluble binder to be added is 0.01-0.1% by weight, and the amount of mannitol to be added is 1-50 parts by weight, per one part by weight of the physiologically active peptide.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~5~~ 1, wherein the water-soluble, nonionic cellulose derivative is selected from the group of hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

7. (currently amended) The method of ~~one of~~ claim 2, wherein the nonionic surfactant is selected from the group of polysorbate, polyoxyethylenehydrogenated castor oil, and a poloxamer.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein drying of the aqueous liquid is performed by spray drying, lyophilization or spray-freeze drying, or by coating which may be fluid-bed coating, or performed in fluid-bed granulation.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the average size of particles making up the powder is 1-10 μm.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the physiologically active peptide is selected from the group of growth hormones, insulins, calcitonins, erythropoietin, glucagon, somatostatin, somatostatin derivatives, interferons, interleukins, superoxide dismutase, urokinase, proteases, tumor necrosis factors, colony-stimulating factors, kallikrein, lysozyme, fibronectin, insulin-like growth factors, epidermal growth factor, fibroblast growth factors, platelet-derived growth factor, nerve growth factor, hepatocyte growth factor, vasculogenesis factors and anti-vasculogenesis factors.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the physiologically active peptide is human growth hormone or human insulin.

12. (previously presented) The method claim 1, wherein the physiologically active peptide is human growth hormone.

13. (currently amended) A method for preparation of a powder containing a physiologically active peptide from an aqueous liquid containing the physiologically active peptide while increasing the stability of the physiologically active peptide in the process of powder formation, wherein the method comprises adding to the ~~forming a powder by drying an~~ aqueous liquid containing a the physiologically active peptide ~~and~~ at least one compound selected from the group of a water-soluble, nonionic, organic binder, and hydrogenated lecithin, wherein the nonionic, organic, water-soluble binder is selected from polyvinylpyrrolidone, a water-soluble, nonionic cellulose derivative, and polyvinylalcohol, and wherein the method comprises drying the liquid to form a powder.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the aqueous liquid further comprises at least one compound selected from the group of a nonionic surfactant and mannitol.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the amount of a nonionic surfactant to be added is 0.01-0.5% by weight, the amount of a nonionic, organic, water-soluble binder to be added is 0.01-1% by weight, and the amount of

mannitol to be added is 1-50 parts by weight, per one part by weight of the physiologically active peptide.

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 13, wherein the water-soluble, nonionic cellulose derivative is selected from the group of hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the nonionic surfactant is selected from the group of ~~polyysorbate~~ polysorbate, polyoxeyethylenehydrogenated castor oil, and a poloxamer.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein drying of the aqueous liquid is performed by spray drying, lyophilization or spray-freeze drying, or by coating which may be fluid-bed coating, or performed in fluid-bed granulation.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the average size of particles making up the powder is 1-10 μm.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the physiologically active peptide is selected from the group of growth hormones, insulins, calcitonins, erythropoietin, glucagon, somatostatin, somatostatin derivatives, interferons, interleukins, superoxide dismutase, urokinase, proteases, tumor necrosis factors, colony-stimulating factors, kallikrein, lysozyme, fibronectin, insulin-like growth factors, epidermal growth factor, fibroblast growth factors, platelet-derived growth factor, nerve

growth factor, hepatocyte growth factor, vasculogenesis factors and anti-vasculogenesis factors.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the physiologically active peptide is human growth hormone or human insulin.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the physiologically active peptide is human growth hormone.